

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY ROME

UNCLAS STATE 138897

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TGEN

SUBJECT: GOI REQUEST FOR INFORMATION ON "TECHNOLOGY
BANK"

REF: A) STATE 122492; B) ROME 08366

1. THIS CABLE PROVIDES MORE DETAILED REPLY PROMISTED IN
REFERENCE.

2. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE'S NATIONAL TECHNICAL INFORMATION
SERVICE (NTIS) IS US INSTITUTION WHICH COMES CLOSEST TO
CONCEPT OF A USG INFORMATION BANK FOR TECHNOLOGY, BESIDES
US PATENT OFFICE. NTIS IS A DISTRIBUTION AND MARKETING
OUTLET FOR MOST FEDERAL AGENCIES PRODUCING TECHNOLOGICAL
INFORMATION AND KEEPS SUBSCRIBERS CURRENT ON NEW INFORMATION
THROUGH NUMEROUS SECTORAL "WEEKLY GOVERNMENT ABSTRACT" NEW-
LETTERS. NTIS IS ALSO NATIONAL MARKETING COORDINATOR FOR
MANY FEDERALLY FUNDED "SPECIAL TECHNOLOGY GROUPS" WHICH
PRODUCE STATE-OF-THE-ART INFORMATION IN HIGHLY SPECIALIZED
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AREAS SUCH AS PROPERTIES AND APPLICATIONS OF PLASTICS,
METALS, AND CERAMICS.

3. DEPARTMENT OBTAINING AND WILL AIR POUCH SAMPLE PACKAGE
OF NTIS' NEWLETTER OUTPUT, AND OTHER RELEVANT PAMPHLETS,

INCLUDING CATALOG OF SERVICES. MAY 1976 ISSUE OF LATTER

MAY ALREADY BE AVAILABLE IN EMBASSY'S COMMERCIAL SECTION, AND PROVIDES ALL ORDERING INFORMATION. (UPDATED CATALOG NOW BEING PRINTED.) DEPARTMENT WOULD BE PLEASED TO ARRANGE AN NTIS TOUR AND BRIEFING FOR A MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY VISITOR TO US.

4. PRINCIPAL LIMITATION OF NTIS IS THAT IT IS LARGELY LIMITED TO FEDERALLY PRODUCED OR FEDERALLY FUNDED TECHNOLOGICAL INFORMATION. INFORMATION ON PRIVATE US PATENTS IS PUBLISHED IN US PATENT OFFICE'S GAZETTE, AVAILABLE ON SUBSCRIPTION BASIC THROUGH US GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE. READY ACCESS TO ABSTRACTS OF PRIVATE TECHNICAL DATABASES IS NOW AVAILABLE THROUGH THE COMPUTERIZED INFORMATION SYSTEMS OF SEVERAL LARGE FIRMS, AND THROUGH RESEARCH FIRMS WHICH ACT AS INFORMATION BROKERS. A US PRIVATE SYSTEM SPECIFICALLY DESIGNED FOR TECHNOLOGY EXCHANGE IS CONTROL DATA CORPORATION'S TECHNOTECH/WORLD TECH., WHICH OPERATES INTERNATIONALLY.

5. EMBASSY MAY, AT ITS DISCRETION, ALSO TRANSMIT FOLLOWING COMMENT TO ITALIANS: GIVEN MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY INTENT TO FOSTER INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT OF A LIMITED ZONE, A "TECHNOLOGICAL INFORMATION BANK" MIGHT PROVE TO BE TOO DIFFICULT, COSTLY, AND AMBITIOUS AN UNDERTAKING. A MORE FEASIBLE IDEA MIGHT BE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A TECHNOLOGICAL INFORMATION SERVICE OFFICE WHICH WOULD ACT AS A BROKER OR REFERRAL CHANNEL BETWEEN THE NEEDS OF THE AREA AND THE VARIOUS TECHNOLOGICAL DATA BASES AND SERVICES OPERATIVE IN THE US AND EUROPE. CHRISTOPHER

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